

of *Audea* (Catocalidæ) or belongs to a genus allied to *Audea*; it has nothing to do with *Hypocala*.

*Hypocala lativitta*, Moore (said to be nearest to *H. biarcuata*), is almost certainly a species of *Audea*; the porrect beak-like palpi of *Hypocala* are not shown in the figure, which, on the other hand, gives the impression of their being formed as in *Audea*.

V.—Description of a new Species of *Acomys*.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

AMONG a small collection of zoological specimens from Mombasa recently presented to the National Collection by Mr. D. J. Wilson, of the British East Africa Company's service, there occurs a specimen of a small spiny mouse clearly representing a new species. A second specimen of the same form has also been received direct from the Company, but the exact locality of this individual is unknown.

I propose to call the species

*Acomys Wilsoni*, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *A. russatus*, Wagn., but distinguished from that, as from every other member of the genus, by its very much smaller size, and especially by its much shorter feet. General colour orange-rufous, grizzled with black, the black predominating on the head and nape. Under surface white. Ears small, rounded, laid forward they just reach to the posterior canthus of the eye. Feet short and broad; palms and soles naked, the pads well defined. Tail short, slender, very finely haired, almost naked; darker above, whiter below; rings of scales about seventeen to the centimetre.

Measurements of the type (an adult female in alcohol):—

Head and body 80 millim.; tail 48 (extreme tip wanting, 55 in the other specimen); hind foot 12·2; heel to front of last foot-pad 5·8; ear, above crown, 8·4.

*Hab.* Mombasa. Coll. D. J. Wilson.

The other species of the genus are all much larger than *D. Wilsoni*, with hind feet measuring from 16 to 19 millim., a difference in size so great as to preclude all necessity for a detailed comparison of the new form with them.

It is with much pleasure that I have named this little species in honour of its discoverer, to whose enthusiasm the British Museum is indebted for many rare and interesting specimens.